

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE J.
WILLIAMSON

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express gratitude to Lawrence J. Williamson of Sterling, Colorado, who is proudly serving his country as a member of the Navy's "silent service," the submarine force, aboard the USS *Honolulu* (SSN 718). Lawrence and 129 other members of the elite force, were deployed in July to the western Pacific Ocean to conduct missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Williamson, is the son of James and Jean Williamson and son-in-law of William and Jan Wilson, all of Sterling. He is the electronic technician aboard the *Honolulu*, a Los Angeles-class attack submarine homeported in Pearl Harbor. Lawrence establishes and maintains communications with the rest of the Navy.

Lawrence and his crewmates aboard the submarine provide a constant, yet covert, presence throughout the world with the capability of projecting force from their weapons delivery systems.

Lawrence attributes his farming and oil field background to providing him the foundations that allow him to meet the stringent qualifications of a submarine crewmember. The 45-year old Williamson faces many challenges and dangers as a member of the silent service, but through it all, he always stands to protect his family and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to express its gratitude and pay tribute to Lawrence J. Williamson for the service he is proudly providing his country.

RECOGNITION FROM THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REVEREND WILLIE F. WILSON, PASTOR, UNION TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House to join me in recognizing the 30th anniversary of Rev. Willie F. Wilson, Pastor of Union Temple Baptist Church, a leading minister of an eminent church he has built in the Nation's capital through deep and dedicated service. Under the leadership of Reverend Wilson, Union Temple Baptist Church has become not only a spiritual leader in our city, but also a unique force for services to the Anacostia community.

Rev. Wilson and his wife, the Rev. Mary L. Wilson, Assistant Pastor of Union Temple, have interpreted their religious calling to bring

hope and pride to the people and the neighborhoods of Anacostia and especially to African Americans in the city and the Nation. Rev. Wilson has led where other ministers have not dared, including his prison ministry and his work to care for and conquer discrimination against people with AIDS. Rev. Wilson has built Union Temple in the tradition of the disciples of Jesus Christ who carried his ministry where it was most needed.

For a life of special service to his church, his community and his city, I ask the House to join me in recognizing the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of Rev. Willie F. Wilson.

IN HONOR OF PETER SLUYS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, Peter Sluys was a fine journalist and long-time friend and interned in my Washington, DC office in 1974, while a student at Hamilton College. He went on to earn his degree from Pace Law School and an LLM Degree from NYU. I was impressed by Peter's grasp of important issues, as well as his diligence and willingness to take on tough tasks.

As a youngster, Peter attained the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. He was also listed in the first edition of Who's Who in American Journalism in 1998 and earned the Meritorious Service Award from the Town of Orangetown. Peter further demonstrated his commitment to community service by becoming an active volunteer firefighter with the Pearl River Fire Department. He was also a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Knights of Columbus.

During his tenure as Editor-in-Chief of Community Media Newspapers, publisher of "Our Town" and most recently as Editor of the "Rockland County Times" and the "Rockland County Courier," I always found Peter to be a fair, if sometimes a hard hitting journalist, who always did his best to inform the public of the important issues that affected their lives.

Georgia and I extend our condolences to his family. Peter Sluys will be sorely missed by everyone who respected his devotion to journalism and his dedication to community.

TRIBUTE TO BILL ERICKSON

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill Erickson of Galeton, Colorado. The 4-H program is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, and Mr. Erickson has been a leader in 4-H for more than 50 years.

A dairy farmer and native of Weld County, Mr. Erickson has been involved in the Galeton

4-H Club for 10 years as a child and then as an assistant leader. Recently, he was honored as a 50-year leader during the Weld County 4-H Recognition Night.

After attending Colorado A&M—now Colorado State University, Mr. Erickson married his wife Clara and went on to serve our country in the United States Air Force. After being discharged in 1952, he returned home and continued to serve the Galeton 4-H Club. Throughout the years, Mr. Erickson has continually sought to develop young leaders, invest in the students of Weld County, and help generations of 4-H participants succeed.

A citizen of Colorado, Bill Erickson is truly a great American. I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Mr. Erickson for his commitment to the Weld County 4-H program.

PROFESSOR SMOOT RECEIVES
ENERGY AWARD

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, as the nation struggles with the need for energy and a desire to preserve the environment, we should take special notice of those who make these competing desires easier to harmonize. One such is Leon Smoot, professor of engineering at Brigham Young University.

Dr. Smoot has just been recognized by the United States Department of Energy for a lifetime of research into fuel combustion, and ways to make that combustion more efficient. As my colleagues know, cleaner combustion means more energy per unit of fuel, and cleaner air for us all to breathe.

Dr. Smoot is more than a talented researcher. He is a devoted father, a wildly popular and effective teacher, a civic activist, a religious leader, and an author. Those of us who are younger can only stand in awe of his stamina and his accomplishments, but we can also be grateful for his contributions to the betterment of the lives of all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Daily Herald newspaper article about Dr. Smoot and his recognition by the Department of Energy be printed at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Daily Herald (Provo, UT), Oct. 9, 2002]

PROFESSOR HEADS TO D.C. TO RECEIVE \$25,000
AWARD

A thin white-haired man with bright blue eyes peering through large, thick lenses, Leon Douglas Smoot strides down the hallway and dashes to the elevator in the BYU engineering building.

Smoot chats with students as they ride the elevator, asking them which floor they want. Most of them simply know him as a chemical engineering professor, but his recognition and talents run the gamut. He's helped save the Brigham Young Academy building,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

served as an expert witness for cases involving fires and explosions all over the United States and has even taught chemical engineering in China.

Tonight, he will add to his long list of awards and recognitions when he accepts an award from the Department of Energy for three decades of research into computer modeling of fuel combustion. His research has led to groundbreaking insights into the formation and prevention of air pollutants, which means cleaner air for Americans to breathe.

Smoot doesn't take full credit for the accomplishment, referring to the many colleagues and students who have helped him with his research.

"I have often said, 'I can't remember doing anything all by myself,'" he said modestly.

The award being presented to Smoot tonight in Washington, D.C., is the highest honor given by the Energy Department for outstanding contributions to fossil energy science and technology.

"He won't flaunt this award at all. He doesn't make you feel like you're beneath him," said Craig Eatough, senior manager of Provo engineering company Combustion Resources, for which Smoot is a senior consultant.

And that may be why Smoot is so well-liked and respected in this community—a community where he grew up and then lived continuously since 1967.

As a young boy in Springville, he loved playing with fireworks and explosives, foreshadowing his later career in researching fossil energy—coal in particular—and the environmental problems that come with it.

As Smoot began teaching at BYU, he was the director of the Advanced Combustion Engineering Research Center at the university, set up by the National Science Foundation to better use low-grade fossil fuels.

In 1985, the center applied for a grant from the foundation, which brought BYU about \$20 million over a 12-year period. The subsequent research has led to a better understanding of pollutants and created computer programs that have helped industrial and academic institutions reduce or prevent the formation of nitrogen oxides, the air pollutants created when coal and other fuels burn.

While even his family sometimes doesn't understand his research, basically, Smoot's discoveries have resulted in Americans breathing cleaner air because officials are better able to predict, understand and control pollution.

Smoot said he isn't sure what he is going to do with the \$25,000 that accompany the award, but joked that by the time his wife, Marian, and his four daughters finish with it, there may be just a few pennies left. His four children are all married BYU graduates and between them have "eight college degrees and 15 children," Smoot proudly declares.

The feelings of pride go both ways, as his daughters tout their father's accomplishments.

"Besides being a great community leader and example, he's also a family man and father who puts great emphasis on being a faithful member of the (LDS) church," said daughter Analee Foster of Mapleton, as she traveled with Smoot on Tuesday to the nation's capital for the awards ceremony.

Perhaps some of the award could be set aside for later this year, when Smoot begins retirement.

His students and co-workers say they will surely miss his infectious enthusiasm.

"He's definitely a role model. And his class is fun," said Brad Damstedt, 22, a senior from Smithfield majoring in mechanical engineering.

However, retirement may be impossible for a man who loves to stay busy: He says he

will likely teach part-time, write and perhaps spend more time with his family and his four Arabian horses—Natasha, Suntan, Bosco and Doty.

Despite the fact he is well into his 60s, Smoot still exudes the energy of youth. He plans to keep up with his daily trips to the gym and will continue to challenge opponents with his mean backhand on the tennis court.

"He has a unique combination of brains, personality, civic mindedness and athleticism," said one of Smoot's tennis buddies, Utah County Commissioner Gary Herbert. "He has a rare combination of being great in many different areas—a well-rounded, uniquely talented individual."

Faithful to his religion, Smoot will continue with his church service. He has been an LDS bishop, area authority, stake president and spent five years in the Fifth Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He also volunteers to teach Book of Mormon classes at BYU.

Most recently, one of Smoot's largest community projects came to fruition: helping preserve the Brigham Young Academy which is now the Provo City Library at Academy Square.

Smoot was the preservation project leader of the Brigham Young Academy Foundation (BYAF) and spent seven years and about 8,000 hours of volunteer work during which he led seven consecutive committees.

"Doug was driven. He has more energy than anyone I know and more passion for this Academy building," said library executive assistant Terry Ann Harward who led the "Get Out and Vote" committee for the bond election.

Provo voters approved a \$16.8 million bond in February 1997 to help fund a new library for the city. But BYAF needed to raise the remaining \$5.4 million in a matter of months, or the preservation project would be killed and the historical building would be torn down.

"Doug was able to pull everyone together and get the momentum going. He let them see his vision of working this marriage of a library and Academy building," Harward said. "He was a mediator who was able to carry this project into a reality."

Smoot's history is deep into the area: His great-grandfather Abraham Owen Smoot served as president of the Brigham Young Academy board of trustees from 1875 until he died in 1895. The university's administration building bears his name.

In 1994, Smoot co-authored a book titled "Abraham Owen Smoot: A Testament of His Life" with his cousin Loretta D. Nixon of Mapleton. He's just finishing another book called "The Miracle of Academy Square," which will detail the history of the preservation of the building.

Tonight, surrounded by colleagues, family and government officials, Smoot will proudly accept yet another award.

"This honor and experience will be a treasured memory," Smoot said.

CALIFORNIA DELEGATION INTRODUCES LANDMARK MISSIONS BILL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill with a majority of the California Congressional Delegation to preserve the 21 historic California missions.

This is the first time such a comprehensive effort has been undertaken at the Federal level. It is time we participated in the effort to protect these national treasures, the oldest of which dates to 1769.

Until recent efforts by the California Missions Foundation, little had been done to preserve the mission's structures and art. Because of this long-term neglect, many of the missions are now in dire need of structural attention and major rehabilitation.

The legislation would provide \$10 million for the restoration effort in a Department of the Interior grants program to be administered over five years. This funding would supplement a statewide private campaign, as well as State funding, to ensure the future of the missions.

The California missions are the most visited historic attractions in the State, drawing over 5.5 million tourists a year. They account for a sizable contribution to the State economy from millions of tourists, including a large number of international visitors.

The missions also play an integral role in educating fourth grade school children under the State's history curricula which includes the missions in the study of western history. This serves an important education function in teaching young students about the role of the missions in the history of our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE LAMAR HIGH SCHOOL LADY SAVAGE SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lamar High School Lady Savage Softball Team from Lamar, Colorado. These young women, under the direction of Head Coach Fermin Ruiz and Assistant Coaches Alan Crouse and Kristi Gallegos, went undefeated for 24 games and advanced to the State championship where they demonstrated strong teamwork and exceptional skill, nearly defeating Erie High School.

The Lamar Lady Savage's record demonstrates what individuals can achieve if they remain diligent and work together. I am proud of these young women because they each contributed unique gifts and abilities to their team and brought out the best in one another.

The Lamar High School Lady Savage 2002–2003 Softball team includes seniors Mindy Medina, Sheena Wollert, Dawne Baca, Velvet Lucero, Karli Pelley, Ashley Dieterle, Kara Downing, Jane Peacock, Buffy Marquez, and Megan Grasmick. Junior players include Katrina Lundy and Paige Ruiz. The two sophomores, Robyn Marquez and Michelle Madsen were joined by freshman Veronica Carillo. Together, all players contributed to a phenomenal season and a great team. I am very proud of them all.

POPULATION AWARENESS WEEK

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, by the year 2030, the number of young people between 15 and

24 is projected to reach 1.2 billion, signifying a 17 percent increase in population worldwide. In many parts of the developing world, almost half of all girls under 18 are married and child-bearing, despite the fact that children born to women younger than age 20 are one and half times more likely to die before their first birthday than those born to mothers between ages 20 and 29.

We must, therefore, recognize the problems associated with rapid population growth among young people. Governor Angus King of Maine has proclaimed the week of October 20–26th of this year as World Population Awareness Week, and I would like to support Governor King in this effort by entering his proclamation into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Whereas, more than one billion people—one sixth of the world's population—are between the ages of 15 and 24, the largest generation ever in this age bracket; and

Whereas, nearly half of the world's population, and 63% in the least developed countries, is under the age 25; and

Whereas, 17 million young women between the ages of 15–19 give birth every year, including some 13 million who live in less developed countries; and

Whereas, early pregnancy and childbearing is associated with serious health risks; and

Whereas, the choices young people make today regarding their reproductive lives will determine whether the world population stabilizes or continues to grow.

Now, Therefore, I, Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim October 20th–26th, 2002 as Population Awareness Week throughout the State of Maine.

THE MENTALLY ILL OFFENDER TREATMENT AND CRIME REDUCTION ACT OF 2002

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing The Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act, the companion to a bill introduced in the Senate last week by Senators DEWINE, LEAHY, GRASSLEY, CANTWELL, BROWNBACK, and DOMENICI.

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, over 16 percent of adults incarcerated in U.S. jails and prisons have a mental illness. In addition, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reports that over 20 percent of youth in the juvenile justice system have serious mental health problems, and many more have co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. The majority of these individuals have illnesses or disorders that are responsive to treatment. With access to this care there is great potential to reduce the number of mentally ill individuals in adult and juvenile corrections facilities and improve public safety.

In the 106th Congress, Senator DEWINE and I successfully passed America's Law Enforcement and Mental Health Project (P.L. 106–515), which created a Department of Justice grant program assisting State and local governments with the establishment of mental health courts. Mental health courts provide specialized dockets in non-adversarial settings

to bring mental health professionals, social workers, public defenders and prosecutors together to divert mentally ill offenders into a treatment plan. The goal of a mental health court is to expand access to mental health treatment, improve the community's response to mentally ill offenders, and reduce recidivism among the mentally ill population.

The Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2002 is phase two of the mental health courts demonstration program and represents a significant commitment to solving the problems caused by the significant proportion of individuals in our criminal justice system who are struggling with mental illness. A main goal of this legislation is to facilitate the necessary collaboration across all levels of government and among all relevant agencies so that the mentally ill receive proper treatment. The bill will create a new competitive grants program in the Department of Justice. Criminal justice and mental health treatment agencies will be required to apply together, compelling the collaboration that is needed to get those who are mentally ill and coming in contact with the criminal justice system, the mental health and substance abuse treatment, education, job training and placement, and housing they need. Grant funds could be used for a variety of types of programs, including pre-arrest diversion, jail treatment/diversion, mental health courts and other courts, and transition back into the community.

The bill also calls for an Interagency Task Force to be established at the Federal level. Task Force members will include: the Attorney General, the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Labor, Education, Veterans Affairs, and Housing and Urban Development; and the Commissioner of Social Security. The Task Force will be charged with identifying ways that Federal departments can respond in a coordinated way to the needs of mentally ill adults and juveniles.

In addition, the bill directs the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a list of "best practices" for criminal justice personnel to use when diverting mentally ill offenders from incarceration into treatment.

Finally, the bill strives to comprehensively address these issues by providing grant funds for pre-arrest diversion, re-entry programs, and community supports such as housing and job-related services. This kind of comprehensive approach is the key to ensuring mentally ill individuals have the support they need to live healthy lives: public safety improves; and our criminal justice system no longer struggles to treat an increasingly mentally ill population.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this bill and make our communities safer for all.

HONORING SANDRA BRIGHT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and tireless dedication in the field of education on the part of Sandra Bright of Platteville, Colorado.

Mrs. Bright is a Colorado native and a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado

with a B.A. degree in Psychology and Education with a secondary teaching certification. In 1973 Mrs. Bright began to develop what would become the ABC Child Development Centers with one preschool of 35 children. Today, she owns operates 11 licensed child care centers with approximately 1000 children and 140 employees providing child care, educational enrichment programs, school programs and summer camps, all with a non-denominational Christian values curriculum.

Mrs. Bright is also a continual advocate for early childhood education not only in her community, but also at the Colorado State Capitol and in Washington D.C. She has served as a committee member on three Weld County District 6 committees, served as chairman for the Weld County Child Care Center Director's Association, sat on the board of First Impressions in the Governor's office of Early Childhood Education Initiatives, served as chairman of the Colorado Child Care Licensing Advisory Committee, and served as President and Vice-President of the Colorado Child Care Association. In addition to this, Mrs. Bright has also stayed on top of current legislation as the chairman of the Greeley/Weld Government Affairs Committee and the Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance.

When she is not busy with community activities or her business, Sandra and her family enjoy many of the outdoor activities that Colorado has to offer, including sailing, snowmobiling, skiing, rafting, and mountain biking. With her husband, Randy, the Brights have raised three grown sons and now have two 3-year-old grandchildren.

Please join me in honoring this remarkable resident of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Mrs. Sandra Bright of Platteville.

ECONOMIC STEWARDSHIP? ARE YOU BETTER OFF?

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, as we return home to our Congressional Districts, I believe that each of us should ask our constituents a slightly modified version of the question made famous by former President Ronald Reagan: "Are you better off than you were two years ago?" Clearly, we are not. The economy, under the stewardship of the House Republican Leadership and the Bush Administration, is faltering. In just two short years, we've gone from creating millions of new jobs to losing our many gains; from enjoying a budget surplus to projecting mounting deficits; from addressing the backlog of infrastructure needs to losing more ground.

And we should expect our constituents to ask us: What are your plans to revitalize our economy and solve the most pressing domestic problems facing our Nation? The response of the House Republican Leadership and the Bush Administration can be summed up simply: tax breaks for the rich. And when that doesn't work, more tax breaks for the rich.

House Democrats have a different economic plan, one that takes proactive measures to protect existing jobs and create new family-wage jobs. Today, I would like to talk about the state of the economy and a Democratic

economic renewal plan. In particular, how one element of the Democratic plan, infrastructure investment, could undo much of the damage that the House Republicans and the Bush Administration have done to the economy and how the House Republican Leadership has prevented action on legislation to make new investments in our Nation's infrastructure and create family-wage, construction jobs.

CURRENT STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Increasing Unemployment

While most of today's headlines focus on the stock market collapse, the market's performance is only symptomatic of the more fundamental decline in our Nation's economic well being during the past two years. For many Americans the macroeconomic problems of stock markets, budget deficits, and Social Security funding issues can be beyond comprehension because the numbers are simply too big to seem real. Also, the consequences, while scary, are uncertain and perhaps not immediate. But one measure of economic performance that virtually all Americans can relate to, arguably the most important measure, is the loss of a job.

In January 2001, when President Bush took office, there were fewer than 5.7 million Americans unemployed. Less than two years later in the summer of 2002, after adjusting for seasonal variations, roughly 7 million Americans were looking for jobs—a 23-percent increase in the number of Americans unemployed. During the eight years of the Clinton Administration, our economy created more than 22 million new jobs. During just one year of the Bush Administration, our economy lost 2.4 million jobs. And as new jobs become more difficult to find, the periods of unemployment are getting longer, resulting in dire consequences for many American families. Roughly 1.5 million Americans have exhausted their state unemployment compensation benefits. Mortgage foreclosures are at an all-time high, as both middle class and working class Americans watch the dream of home ownership slip away.

Economic dislocations are never evenly distributed around the Nation. Some regions and some groups are always more severely affected than others, and it is usually the working class that suffers most. The current situation is no exception. I want to focus on one area of economic activity where many Americans have been particularly hard hit—nonresidential construction. The Commerce Department recently reported that spending for new construction fell 0.4 percent in August as nonresidential construction activity hit a six-year low. Unemployment in this construction sector has swollen by more than 50 percent from roughly 540,000 unemployed construction workers in January 2001, to 824,000 in July 2002.

Stock Market Collapse

The most widely reported element of the current economic malady is, of course, the collapse of the stock market. The loss in value is unprecedented—40 percent of the market's value, \$4.5 trillion, has been wiped out. Many people who were planning to retire based on savings in their 401(k) accounts and other investments made in the eight years of prosperity under the Clinton Administration have now had to abandon those plans.

Perhaps most disturbingly, despite the stock market collapse, the House Republican Lead-

ership and the Bush Administration continue to tout privatization of Social Security and a greater reliance on individual investments in the stock market as the key to reforming the Social Security System. The folly of placing the social safety net that millions of older Americans rely on in the stock market should now be evident even to the most ardent supporter of privatization. Yet the Republicans persist.

The Republicans have several plans for privatizing Social Security. However, to make their plans work they must either cut benefits or divert trillions of dollars from other programs—other programs that, in all likelihood, are targeted to benefit poor and working class Americans. According to one study, senior citizens, surviving spouses, and people with disabilities would see benefit cuts of between 30 and 46 percent annually under the Republican proposals.

REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP AND BUSH ADMINISTRATION RESPONSE: TAX BREAKS FOR THE WEALTHY

The Administration's response to the declining economy has been the usual Republican panacea of cutting taxes for the wealthiest Americans and hoping it trickles down to the rest of the population. While many Americans got a check for \$300 last year, the true beneficiaries of the Republican tax cut are those households making more than \$370,000 per year, who will get an average benefit of more than \$50,000 per year.

These are not modest tax breaks. The long-term size of the Republican tax break package is more than double the entire long-term Social Security shortfall. The present value of the Social Security shortfall over the next 75 years is \$3.7 trillion—less than one-half of the \$8.7 trillion that the Republican tax breaks will cost the Treasury.

A recent Brookings Institution assessment of the Republican tax break package concluded that it would reduce the size of the future economy, raise interest rates, and make taxes more regressive. The assessment concluded that the Bush tax package was fiscally unsound and unsustainable even before the economic downturn and the September 11 terrorist attacks—so much for Republican fiscal discipline.

At the same time, President Bush, in his fiscal year 2003 Budget Request, proposed an \$8.6 billion, or 27 percent, cut in our Nation's highway infrastructure investment, which would cost the economy more than 360,000 good-paying jobs.

IMPACT ON THE FEDERAL BUDGET: ELIMINATING THE SURPLUS

Instead of surpluses, the Republican Leadership and the Bush Administration are running ever-larger Federal deficits as far as the eye can see. Under the Bush Administration, the projected Federal budget for the next decade (2002–2011) is in the midst of a \$5.3 trillion swing in the wrong direction. A projected \$5.6 trillion surplus has dwindled so that the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) now forecasts only a \$336 billion surplus—all of which is in the Social Security Trust Fund. Excluding Social Security surpluses, CBO projects a \$2 trillion budget deficit over the decade compared to the \$3.1 trillion surplus projected just last year—and that is before the long-term consequences of President Bush's tax breaks or increased defense spending are factored into the equation. If we add these additional expenses to current budget estimates, the

Federal budget will show a cumulative deficit of \$3.2 trillion for the coming decade.

The Republicans pledged that they would protect Social Security—but they have violated that pledge. The Republican Leadership has passed an economic plan that diverts \$2 trillion from Social Security into other non-Social Security initiatives. If Congress continues these Republican policies, over the next decade, we will consume the entire Social Security Surplus, all of the Medicare surplus, and add at least a trillion dollars to the national debt.

A DEMOCRATIC ECONOMIC PLAN: INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Instead of passing tax breaks for the wealthy, the Republican Leadership and the Bush Administration could have developed a bipartisan plan to use the surplus to invest in our Nation's infrastructure, shore up the Social Security Trust Fund, and pay down the national debt. In less than two years, the Republican Leadership and the Bush Administration have squandered each of those opportunities.

Unlike the Republicans and their "trickle down" approach to the economy, the Democrats have proposed a program to stimulate the economy by creating jobs—especially jobs in nonresidential construction—and rebuilding our Nation's infrastructure. One year ago today, the Democrats on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure introduced H.R. 3166, the Rebuild America: Financing Infrastructure Renewal and Security for Transportation Act ("Rebuild America FIRST Act"). The Rebuild America: FIRST Act would have provided \$50 billion to enhance the security of our Nation's infrastructure, including improvements to rail, highway, transit, aviation, maritime, water resources, environmental, and public building infrastructure. Moreover, by leveraging Federal infrastructure investments, the 10-year cost to the Federal Treasury would be less than \$32 billion.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, each \$1 billion in new highway infrastructure investment creates 47,500 jobs and \$4.5 billion in economic activity. The Democratic infrastructure investment and security bill would have created more than two million jobs—virtually eliminating the job losses that have occurred since this Administration came into office—and restored more than \$200 billion to our economy. Moreover, in the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the bill provided that priority would be given to infrastructure investments that focus on enhanced security for our Nation's transportation and environmental infrastructure systems.

Our infrastructure investment package called for investments in ready-to-go projects in each of the critical areas of our Nation's transportation and environmental infrastructure: \$23 billion for rail including high-speed rail, freight rail, and Amtrak; \$10.4 billion for highways and transit; \$9.2 billion for environmental infrastructure including wastewater, drinking water, wet weather, and Corps of Engineers projects; \$3 billion for airports; \$2.5 billion for marine transportation; and \$2 billion for economic development and public buildings.

This package of infrastructure, transportation, and environmental investment and security enhancement made economic sense. It provided funds where they were most needed. It directly addressed unemployment problems. It directly addressed the Nation's security interests.

The Republicans defeated it. On October 24, 2001, the House considered H.R. 3090, the Republican Economic Stimulus bill, and Mr. RANGEL, Ranking Democratic Member of the Committee on Ways and Means, offered a Democratic Substitute amendment to the bill that included H.R. 3166. The Republicans defeated it, on a largely party-line vote, to accelerate their tax breaks for the rich.

Even in those cases where Democrats and Republicans have worked together to design legislative proposals to invest in America, the House Republican Leadership has thwarted those bipartisan efforts. For example, on June 12, 2001, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure unanimously reported H.R. 1020, the Railroad Track Modernization Act of 2001, by voice vote. The bill authorized \$1 billion of grants to short-line and regional railroads to help them upgrade their railroad tracks and bridges to be able to carry safely the 286,000-pound railcars that are becoming the standard in the railroad industry. One study found that the Nation's smaller railroads need \$7 billion in new capital to make their necessary upgrades. Our failure to help keep these smaller railroads viable could have dire consequences for those in the industry and much of rural America. Despite these facts, for the past year and a half, the House Republican Leadership has refused to schedule the short-line railroad infrastructure bill for consideration by the House.

Another, even more dramatic case in point, was the proposed legislation to provide funding for the development of high-speed rail. Republicans and Democrats spent more than a year working together to craft bipartisan, compromise legislation that effectively blended the best elements of two high-speed rail bills, one bill originally advanced by Mr. YOUNG, the Chairman of the Committee on the Transportation and Infrastructure, and another bill advanced by a bipartisan group of 190 Members and me, the Committee's Ranking Democratic Member. The proposed compromise legislation, H.R. 2950 ("RIDE 21"), as favorably reported by the Subcommittee on Railroads, would have provided \$79 billion over 10 years to finance the construction of high-speed rail in America. By using a combination of tax credit bonds, tax-exempt bonds, loans, and loan guarantees, the bill's cost to the Federal Treasury would have been significantly less than \$79 billion. However, the Republican Leadership made clear that, like the short-line railroad bill, it would not let the House consider the bill and it died in Committee.

Similarly, on March 20, 2002, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee unanimously ordered reported H.R. 3930, the Water Quality Financing Act of 2002. The bipartisan legislation authorizes \$20 billion to invest in our Nation's wastewater infrastructure and helps ensure the protection of our Nation's streams, lakes, and coastal areas for generations to come. H.R. 3930 increases wastewater infrastructure investment and provides increased flexibility for local communities to tailor their programs to meet local water quality needs. Such investment is necessary if our communities are ever going to meet many of the goals of the Clean Water Act. However, the House Republican Leadership made clear that the House would not be allowed to consider this legislation, placing at risk this Nation's 30 years of effort to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters."

What has frustrated these efforts to invest in our Nation's infrastructure, stimulate the economy, and create family-wage jobs? Why has the Republican Leadership opposed virtually every attempt to invest in America? The answer is simple. The Republican Leadership opposes Davis-Bacon. Specifically, it opposes Davis-Bacon provisions in these infrastructure investment bills and refuses to schedule any bill containing these provisions for consideration by the House, despite the fact that these bills would create good-paying jobs for American workers and would stimulate the economy.

Davis-Bacon ensures that construction projects financed by Federal tax dollars pay those who work on such projects the prevailing wage in the area where the construction takes place. Davis-Bacon provisions have been a part of infrastructure bills since the 1930's, but they are anathema to the House Republican Leadership and reflect a fundamental, philosophical difference between the Republican Leadership and, I believe, the majority of this House. The Republican leadership wants to roll back the clock. Prior to the 1930's, Federal contracting practice required that "the lowest reasonable bill" be accepted. While this may sound like an innocuous money-saving measure, in practice this meant that projects would be undertaken without any regard for the wages paid to workers or the conditions under which the work would be performed. In effect, this made the Federal government a collaborator with unscrupulous firms that sought to gain government contracts by exploiting workers. In 1931, Republican President Hoover signed the Davis-Bacon Act, so named for its two Republican sponsors, to help stabilize the construction industry and secure fair wages for construction workers.

Today, the Davis-Bacon Act prevents cut-throat competition from "fly-by-night" firms that undercut local wages and working conditions and compete unfairly with local contractors. Davis-Bacon also helps stabilize the industry to the advantage of both employers and employees alike. In addition, Davis-Bacon assures the contracting agency of higher quality work as the employers are likely to hire the most competent and productive workers if they are required to pay the prevailing wage. As a result of Davis-Bacon, contracting agencies get better craftsmanship, less waste, more timely completion, reduced need for supervision, and fewer mistakes requiring corrective action. Thus, Davis-Bacon has the potential for actually saving the taxpayers' money on public construction projects.

It is irresponsible for the House Republican Leadership to refuse consideration of these infrastructure investment bills simply because they include Davis-Bacon provisions. Members of Congress deserve the opportunity to vote for or against these bills on the merits of the legislation. Moreover, I encourage the House Leadership to schedule these bills under an open rule that allows all Members an opportunity to offer amendments to the bill. If the Republican Leadership or any other Member wants to offer an amendment to strike the Davis-Bacon provisions from these bills, so be it—let the votes be counted. That is our democratic system.

Our Nation needs an economic stimulus program that creates jobs in hard hit sectors of our economy, rehabilitates our basic infrastructure to allow us to remain competitive in

world markets, addresses the infrastructure security needs of our transportation and environmental systems, and helps to revise our stagnant economy. In response to these immediate needs, the Republican Leadership and the Bush Administration have provided tax breaks for the rich and renewed threats to the Social Security Trust Fund and have prevented Congress from even considering real economic stimulus legislation.

The American people deserve better. As the people's representatives, we must do better. I call on the House Republican Leadership to give this House the opportunity to consider these bills to reinvest in American and its infrastructure.

HONORING EDWARD MILES
BROOKS, D.D.S.

HON. KEN BENTSEN
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Edward Miles Brook upon his receipt of the State of Israel Maimonides Award from the Texas Medical and Health Professions Division of State of Israel Bonds. The Maimonides Award, the highest honor for a member of the Health Professions, salutes the recipient's outstanding involvement in the Jewish community, in addition to their continued dedication in the field of health care.

Dr. Brook has always shown a remarkable academic aptitude with a dedication to scholastic success. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Edward arrived in Texas to attend University of Texas at Austin and St. Mary's University in San Antonio. He continued his studies in the field of dentistry at the University of Texas Dental Branch, graduating in 1956. Upon completion of his dental degree, Edward Brook went on to serve his country as a captain in the U.S. Air Force.

Dr. Brook has been a valuable asset to the medical profession. Besides being a member of the Houston District Dental Society, Texas Dental Association, and the American Prosthodontic Association, Dr. Brook is known for his compassionate manner and the dutiful care that he provides to his patients. He has shared his exceptional talents with the Houston community by generously volunteering his dental services. Having served as President of Congregation Emanu El, Dr. Brook has utilized his dental skills on behalf of the Houston Jewish and greater Houston communities. As a result of his critical efforts in establishing the free care dental program at Seven Acres Jewish Geriatric Center, both its residents and the board have honored him for his volunteer dental care. His work with geriatric patients precipitated his appointment to the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston's Commission on Aging, serving as its first chairman. Dr. Brook has also volunteered his invaluable dental assistance to the Depelchin Children's Center, Houston Area Women's Center, and the Jewish Family Service, where he was a member of the board of directors and Refugee Advisory Committee. His dedication to the access of quality dental care for all people also carried him to China, where he participated in a two week medical mission, supplying essential training for Chinese physicians and dentists.

Dr. Brook's involvement in the Houston Jewish community began in 1959 when he joined the board of the Congregation Emanu El Brotherhood. From there, Dr. Brook continued his support for the congregation by serving as chairman on both the Religious School Committee and the Administration and Personnel Committee. In addition, he was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1973–2000, demonstrating his leadership as board treasurer, vice president, senior vice president, and then president of the Congregation Emanu El from 1989 until 1991.

Additionally, Dr. Brook has been extremely active in the Jewish community nationally, playing an instrumental role in the establishment of several programs, including the Becker Preschool Program. As chairman of the Leadership Planning Conference of the Presidents of Large Congregations at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations from 1990 to 1998, Dr. Brook demonstrated his commitment to the larger Reform movement through his exceptional leadership skills.

Ed Brook's compassionate demeanor stretches far beyond the care he provides to his patients, as he is a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He and his wife Darna are the loving parents of Julie and Drew Alexander, Helen and John Brook, and Sara Brook, as well as the proud grandparents of five.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Edward Brook is truly a committed civic leader, as well as a distinguished health care professional. I applaud the Texas Medical and Health Professions Division, State of Israel Bonds in recognizing his selflessness and commitment to the public good. I also commend Dr. Edward Brook on receiving this award and more importantly, his work to provide necessary dental services to the residents of the Houston community and to promote the health of citizens from all walks of life.

TRIBUTE TO ANNALISA MOLINE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miss Annalisa Moline of Denver, Colorado. Annalisa is the first resident at the fifth, and newest, Colorado State Veterans Home located at the old Fitzsimons VA facility in Denver.

An immigrant from Sweden, Annalisa Moline grew up in South Dakota where she graduated from high school in 1924. Upon graduation, she moved to New York to become a nurse and in 1940 joined the Army because she said, "I thought I should always do something better."

Mr. Speaker, Annalisa Moline was stationed in Paltava, Russia where she cared for American pilots sent on bombing runs in Europe. It was here that she helped set up a field hospital for the injured while weathering attacks from German bombers. For her courage and honor during this period she was awarded the Bronze Star for valor. She came home from World War II with the rank of major and put in another ten years of service with the Veterans administration. In 1995, Annalisa was awarded the highest honor for nurses in Colorado, the Nightingale Award.

Annalisa has not only made her community proud, but also her state and country. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending thanks and congratulations to Miss Annalisa Moline for her service and contributions to the United States.

COMMENDING THE LAO AND HMONG-AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF RHODE ISLAND

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, concerned individuals and organizations from the Laotian-American community in my district in Rhode Island and throughout the United States participated in key sessions of the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos, held on both July 17 and October 1, 2002, in the U.S. House of Representatives. They presented testimony and provided critical information to the Congress about the deteriorating human rights situation in Laos and the plight of missing Lao student leaders, political and religious dissidents as well as the ongoing persecution and horrific massacre of minority peoples, including the Hmong people in the closed areas of Saysamboun Special Zone and Xieng Khouang Province.

Mr. Speaker, right now many Laotian and Hmong-Americans in Rhode Island have family members who are still suffering and dying in Laos under the brutal Pathet Lao regime. I am concerned that Laos remains a one-party Communist system that has nearly bankrupt the nation—both economically and morally, in terms of the lack of basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, including lack of religious freedom.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to honor and thank Mr. Thongsavanh Phongsavanh, and his colleagues from North Providence, Rhode Island, who have helped to so honorably represent the Laotian-American community in Rhode Island as well as the Lao-American Council and the Lao Progressive Institute of Rhode Island. I also want to recognize and commend Mr. Philip S. Smith, Executive Director, of the Center for Public Policy Analysis for his important work and leadership in helping to coordinate the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos with Members of Congress as well as assisting the freedom-loving people of Laos in Rhode Island and elsewhere in the Laotian Diaspora community. Special recognition and thanks also to: Mrs. Nouamkham Khamphylavong, Mr. Aly Chantala, Mr. Oudong Saysana and the members of the "Lao Students Movement for Democracy"; Mr. T. Kumar, Amnesty International; Ms. Christine Hines and Mr. John Tai, of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom; Mr. Paul Martin, U.S. Department of State; Mrs. Kay Danes, former Australian political prisoner in Laos; Mr. Makram Ouais, National Democratic Institute; His Excellency Kat Dittavong, former Royal Lao Ambassador to Thailand 1973–75; Mr. Prakian Viravong, of the "December 14" organization, as well as a distinguished Lao poet and author; Mr. Khampoua Naovarangsy, of the Laos Institute for Democracy; Mr. Bounchaloune Phouthakhanty; Mr. Alan Sananikone, Col. Bounmee Sananikone,

Mr. Bounthone Rathigna, Mr. Thongchanh Boulum, Col. Khamthene Chinyavong and Baramy Mitthivong, of the United League for Democracy in Laos, Inc.; The Honorable Dr. Sin Vilay, of the Royal Laos Foundation; Mr. Bounleung Ngonevolalath; Col. Khambang Sibounheuang—decorated officer and "White Dragon Two" author—and his colleague, Mr. Eugene Prater, of the Lao Nationalist Reform Party; Bon and Laura Xiong, Hubert Yang, Chuhu Xiong, Xieng Xiong and Ying Xiong, of the Hmong International Human Rights Watch and Hmong Reform Party; Mr. Moua Sao, of Lan Xang Democracy, Inc. and son of the legendary Hmong resistance leader Cher Pao Moua; Dr. Kayasith Rattanavongkoth, of the national Laotian-American Association; Jacqueline Sun; Dr. Edward Samada, International Buddhist Fellowship; Pastor Pat Kearney; Pastor Sidney Kahn; Mr. Kingsavanh Pathammavong, researcher, Lao history and culture; Mrs. Bounchan Senthavong, Lao Community Advisor; Col. Thai C. Vang, Col. Wangyee Vang, Chertzong Vang, Mr. Chang Ger Xiong, Nao Lue Kue, Mr. Toua Kue, Xia Xu Kue and many others from the Lao Veterans of America, Inc.; Touy Manikham, former RLAF pilot; Professor Onsy Inthavong, Mr. Vanhlang Khamsouk, Manisakhone Sinhbandith and Nick Hanthaley, of the Federation for Free Elections in Laos; Mrs. Yer Ly, daughter of missing Hmong-American, Mr. Houa Ly; Mr. Bee Moua, Representative, Chao Fa Party; Mr. Bounheuang Manivong, Editor, Phendin Lao Magazine; Miss Ratdavone Yotharath, President, Miss Lao-American, Inc. of Rhode Island; Mr. Vue Lee, Hmong Community Advisor and businessman; Mr. Southalavong Boutah, Lao Veterans Association; and, George Vue and Dr. Houa Yang, of the Hmong National Council, Inc. as well as so many others.

Mr. Speaker, I remain deeply concerned about the plight of the suffering people of Laos and the deplorable human rights and economic situation under the current Pathet Lao regime. I join my colleagues in Congress in commending the Lao and Hmong-American community and the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos for the important effort they have put forward to help raise further awareness about the difficult situation in Laos, including human rights violations, religious and ethnic persecution—and the terrible plight of missing Lao student leaders and Hmong-Americans.

HONORING MARTY DRIESLER

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, it is such an honor and privilege to serve in the United States House of Representatives. This honor and privilege is made all the greater by the people I work with on a day to day basis, particularly my Chief of Staff, Marty Driesler.

Marty has toiled for the betterment of her country for more than thirty years by working as the chief of staff of two members of Congress, a campaign consultant, a political fundraiser, and in various high level administrative jobs working with key state and local government officials.

For the past three years, I have been fortunate to benefit from her service as my chief of

staff. Her profound experience and encyclopedic knowledge of the workings of Congress have aided in my growth as a congressman. Much more importantly, her basis goodness, sound judgment, and wonderful sense of humor have allowed me to grow as a person. For that I am eternally grateful.

She is a trusted advisor, skillful tactician, and above all, a dear friend. The benefit of her tutelage has left an indelible impression on all those who have worked with her—and I would put myself at the top of that list. I do not hesitate to say that our country and this august body are much better because of her service.

After her many years of dedication and my many attempts to convince her otherwise, Marty has chosen to retire. She has heeded the higher calling as a devoted wife, a caring mother, and a doting grandmother. I never cease to be amazed by her *joie de vivre* and know that for Marty, this is just the beginning of another purposeful, celebratory stage of her wonderful life.

Marty, we love you dearly, and we wish you all the best.

RECOGNIZING RAY MARTINEZ

HON. BOB SCHAFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Ray Martinez, Mayor of Fort Collins, Colorado. Ray has over 26 years of public service and has been instrumental in making Fort Collins a "City of Character."

Martinez started his public service career by serving three years in the United States Army in Thailand and stateside. Upon completion of his military service he began a career in law enforcement by joining the Fort Collins Police Department in 1974, becoming an expert witness in the "field of identification, recognition, and investigation of dangerous drugs." When he retired from the police department in 1996 after 25 years of service he was the first hispanic sergeant in the history of the Fort Collins Police Department.

His public service career far from over, Martinez was elected Mayor of Fort Collins in 1999 and once again in 2001. At this time, he began to focus his attention on one of his primary concerns, public safety. It was the subject of his first book and, as mayor, he continued the effort by serving on two public safety boards. Mr. Martinez was appointed by the United States Conference of Mayors as co-chair of the Mayors and Police Chiefs Task Force and he also sits on the National League of Cities Steering Committee for Public Safety and Crime Prevention.

Mr. Speaker, Ray Martinez has been instrumental in transforming Fort Collins, Colorado into a "City of Character." Through his commitment to public safety, eagerness to listen to members of the community, and ability to work with youth, Mr. Martinez has transformed the city into a place that anybody would love to call home. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations to Mayor Ray Martinez for a job well done.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Minisink National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and the 85th Anniversary of the Beaverkill National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) was founded on October 11, 1890. Objectives: Historical—to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; Educational—to carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge, thus developing an enlightened public opinion..." and Patriotic—to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty.

Nearly 786,000 members have joined the NSDAR since it was founded. There are now over 170,000 members in chapters in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Australia, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Mexico and Japan. Membership is open to any female applicant who is 18 years or older and who can prove a direct blood line from an ancestor who aided in the War for Independence either in military, civil or patriotic service between the dates of April 19, 1775 and November 26, 1783.

The Beaverkill Chapter was organized in 1917 and the Minisink Chapter was founded in 1902. Both chapters belong to the New York State Organization, which has approximately 7,300 women aged 18–100+ in 144 chapters across the State working to meet the DAR Objectives.

The New York State Organization is responsible for maintaining historic sites within New York State such as the Hervey Ely House and the Madam Brett Homestead, organizing a pilgrimage to Valley Forge and locating, transcribing and publishing previously unpublished genealogy source records. Moreover, each year, the State and local chapters award scholarships to college bound young women who exemplify the American Spirit and who are looking to attain a higher education with a view to their becoming better prepared for life and citizenship.

The work of the Daughters of the American Revolution is and will continue to be invaluable. Best known for their work in collecting and indexing unpublished genealogical material and source records and assisting prospective members in tracing their lineage, the Daughters of the American Revolution does so much more. Whether it is their work to preserve national landmarks and buildings of historical importance or their dedication to promoting education, patriotism and an appreciation for American history, the Daughters of the American Revolution are an American treasure.

Once again, congratulations to the Minisink and Beaverkill Chapters as they celebrate their momentous anniversaries.

IN HONOR OF SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK AND THE COMMITMENT OF THE GROUP TO THE PURSUIT OF FULL CONGRESSIONAL VOTING RIGHTS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND TO THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AROUND THE WORLD

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the extraordinary talent and uniquely effective activism of Sweet Honey in the Rock, the Grammy Award-winning African American female a cappella ensemble with deep roots in gospel, jazz, blues, and the civil rights movement. I am particularly pleased to honor the outstanding contributions that this ensemble has made in increasing national awareness and support for the struggle of the residents of the District of Columbia against taxation without representation.

We are fortunate that Sweet Honey calls the District of Columbia home. What better home for a group that specializes in songs about democracy and freedom? What better home than the only city in the United States still without full civil and political rights? What better home than the home of taxation without representation?

Sweet Honey gave its 29th Anniversary Concert to a packed house at the Warner Theatre on October 18, 2002. They sang and the audience sang. Among the songs was one that particularly delighted the hometown audience—Give the People Their Right To Vote! It is a tour de force of lyrics and song that tell the entire history of the denial of democracy and representation in the District. Sweet Honey manages this virtuoso mission with a song that educates as it makes you tap your feet.

In response to Congressional insistence that D.C. residents fulfill 100 percent of their obligations while denying these American citizens the vote in Congress, Sweet Honey in the Rock composed and regularly sings two songs about the distinctive denial of congressional representation in the nation's capital: Give the People Their Right To Vote! and We Want the Vote! Like Sweet Honey's other music, these songs educate, inspire, enlighten, and entertain all at once. Both songs speak to the injustice and exploitation of D.C. residents, who are second per capita in federal income taxes and who have fought in every American war since the Revolutionary War, incurring disproportionate casualties.

Yet, the songs Sweet Honey has written and the songs they sing tell the story of the struggles of people everywhere for freedom. Sweet Honey's range of music and style is unique in the musical world and appreciated throughout the world.

Sweet Honey was born in the civil rights movement out of the original Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Freedom Singers. Just as America's great African American jazz musicians and singers spring from the black church, Sweet Honey's roots are in African American church music, spirituals, movement songs, and folk music.

Sweet Honey is the brainchild of the group's founder, Bernice Johnson Reagon, who created Sweet Honey in the Rock in 1973. Ms.

Reagon has used her unique talent, keen intellect, and deep commitment to create a group that is revered and loved both for its music and for its dedication to the struggles of oppressed people everywhere.

Sweet Honey uses the experience of African Americans with racial discrimination to inspire others to struggle against all forms of oppression. The group continually reminds us all that the black civil rights movement of the 1960s was not about parochial issues but about universal principles of human rights. And, as Sweet Honey reminds us in songs about the denial of the vote here, human rights must always begin at home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring the unwavering activism and award-winning talent of this great ensemble, whose dedicated and creative approach to encouraging freedom around the world should serve as an inspiration to all who work for full democracy and complete congressional representation for the people of the District of Columbia.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JONATHAN L.
HOTALING

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to one of Colorado's outstanding citizens, Mr. Jonathan L. Hotaling of Denver, Colorado. All who have been fortunate to know Jon speak of his commitment to God and his service to the community. I know Jon Hotaling and am glad to say he has been a strong leader in Colorado.

Jon is currently the Executive Director of the Christian Coalition of Colorado. He is a Colorado native who graduated from the University of Colorado in 1995. Jon became a Christian in his first semester of college and since that time has given up the worldly plan that most youths have. Instead of fame or fortune, Jon passed up many lucrative jobs in the area of finance to fight for justice in the public square. It is encouraging to see a young man follow the plan of the Savior, never persuaded to be of the world.

During his tenure as Executive Director, the Christian Coalition of Colorado has been recognized as the fastest growing state-based, pro-family political organization in all of America. Jon himself led the four-year successful campaign to eliminate taxpayer money going to Colorado abortionists such as Planned Parenthood. The funding contradicted Article 5, Section 50 of the Colorado Constitution.

Jon is a distinguished individual carrying out both his personal and professional lives with the values of dignity, respect, reverence to God, and a dedication to serving his community. He is truly a fine example for all Americans.

A native Coloradoan, Jon not only makes his community proud, but also those of his state and country. It is a true honor to know such an extraordinary citizen, a man who will be known as one who stood against the injustices of the world. We truly owe him a debt of

gratitude for his service and dedication to America. I ask the House to join me in extending wholehearted congratulations to Mr. Jonathan Hotaling.

HONORING EVELYN "BLACKIE"
WATTERS AND THE OTERO
COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give thanks to a very special group of ladies in Otero County, Colorado. The Otero County Republican Women work diligently to promote and defend the ideals of the Republican Party. They have been supportive of me, my staff, and every effort I have pursued in the Congress.

They are tireless leaders in their community, and I am so proud to have been able to represent them in Congress for the past six years. Their efforts on behalf of Republican Women and the Republican Party do not go without great admiration and appreciation.

One member of this organization that must be specifically recognized is Evelyn "Blackie" Watters. She leads this group with extraordinary skill, enthusiasm and vigor. The Otero County Republican Women are fortunate to have such a strong Republican woman at the helm. She is a testament to Republican activists throughout Colorado.

HONORING JACKSON SMITH

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jackson Smith of Loveland, Colorado, former maintenance director for the building where Colorado's Fourth Congressional district office is located.

Jackson is a true American who takes pride in his work. Throughout the time he worked with my office, he always responded to trouble calls in a timely manner and was eager to fix any problems. He didn't wait for us to call to tell him light bulbs were burned out, he would periodically stop by the office to check and inquire about any needs we may have had. Jackson is the type of person every company would like on their payroll. Besides his work in building maintenance, Jackson is an avid Georgia Bulldogs and Atlanta Falcons football fan. He also coached boys and girls Golden Glove boxing, traveling to tournaments on weekends.

Jackson is a Democrat who said he voted Republican for the first time in his life when he voted for me to serve here in the Congress. He said he discovered Republicans were pretty nice people and told his friends to vote for me also.

Much to our regret, Jackson left the company he was working for and went to work for another maintenance company in a nearby

city. He stopped by the office on October 21 to say "hi" and "bye." He is moving to Georgia to be near family as he was told he has a terminal case of cancer. He will be undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

Jackson is the kind of person who is not a quitter and we pray that God's will be done. Jackson is an outstanding American and a great example to our young people.

May God bless Jackson Smith. The thoughts and prayers of his friends and co-workers are with him. They will always remember his warm smile and his big heart.

HONORING GEORGE HALL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Hall of Greeley, Colorado as an outstanding businessman, community leader and benefactor. Mr. Hall is a fourth generation Coloradan who joined the U.S. Army and served in the Korean War. In 1957 George and his wife Betty moved to Greeley and shortly thereafter founded what is now the Hall-Irwin Corporation of which Mr. Hall has served as President and CEO for the past 39 years. In that time, the Hall-Irwin Corporation has grown from a four-person operation to a business that has six divisions and employs over 300 people. Under George's leadership, Hall-Irwin has been honored by the Greeley/Weld Economic Development Action Partnership with the "Industry Excellence Award."

In addition to his business, George Hall has also been active as a community leader, being first elected to the Greeley City Council in 1965. After serving two terms as Councilman, Mr. Hall was then elected to four consecutive terms as Greeley City Mayor.

A recipient of numerous awards for community service, Mr. Hall has received the "Community Excellence Award," the "Weld County Citizen of the Year Award," and the "Weld Distinguished Citizen Award" presented by the Longs Peak Boy Scouts Council.

At a time in his life when many people are content to simply enjoy retirement, George Hall remains active as a member of several boards, committees and philanthropic organizations including Greeley Rotary, Aims Community College Foundation Board of Directors, Greeley Chamber of Commerce, Greeley/Weld EDAP Board of Directors, and the University of Northern Colorado Business College Advisory Council. George also continues to be active with the youth of his community by sharing his wisdom and talents as an assistant baseball coach for the city's youth league. Another of his most recent projects has been to manage Greeley's "Quality of Life" campaign, which will add parks and recreation areas for future generations to enjoy.

Despite the tremendous success in all that he does, Mr. Hall is a modest, humble man who serves as a role model to those who know him and whose lives he touches. I ask the House to join me in commemorating the remarkable Mr. George Hall of Colorado.